**School Improvement Recommendations**

**1. Recommendation #1**

Rolling Hills Catholic School needs to create and implement a short-term and a long-term technology plan. There is little technology available on the campus and what little is available is not readily available to both sides of the campus. With our new relationship with the Archdiocese of San Antonio, it is even more important that we strive to improve our offerings in technology. Budget concerns are an issue, so seeking other avenues of funding, such as educational grants, will need to be a focus. Providing professional development will also be necessary.

**2. Recommendation #2**

The consideration of organizing a Site Based Decision Making Committee would be a benefit to the school. Currently, all decisions are made by the principal and/or the board. While this has been effective and, in the end, these are the parties that will need to make final decision, a SBDM committee would be an asset to the school. Involving teacher, parent and community representatives in problem solving, planning and decision making would help to improve the school culture and cohesiveness.

**3. Recommendation #3**

Due to recent school shootings and the Boston bombing, school safety has become a top priority on all campuses. New safety procedures, such as keeping classroom doors locked at all times, and a new phone system with paging capabilities has help to make our campus a safer place. However, we still have many people walking around our campus. These people include some of our parents, work crews, etc. Even though we know who many of these people are, it would be wise to start implementing a sign-in system and a requirement that all visitors wear a visitors badge, signifying that they have permission to be on campus. We have long had the habit of allowing our students' parents to walk on and off the campus at anytime without checking in at the office. While that has worked in the past, recent events dictate that precaution and a pro-active stance are imperative. Starting a new procedure of check-in and wearing a badge to signify permission would be very proactive.

**4. Recommendation #4**

Considering that the library has never had a budget, is staffed by volunteers, and all books have either been donated or purchased with Book Fair money, the library looks great. However, there is much that still can be done to improve the library. Updating the data tracking system and weeding through the collection to get rid of out-dated, older books would be a great start. Also, providing a larger space would make a world of difference. The library has a decent collection but the space is so small that it is difficult to move around and to feel comfortable to use the library for extended periods. I believe that allowing students to use the library before and after school would be another improvement. This would especially be true for the upper grade levels that often have research projects due.

**5. Recommendation #5**

With such a large portion of the student population being English as a Second Language Learners, it would be good for all staff to receive professional development in ESL strategies, such as Sheltered Instruction. This would give teachers a better resource and knowledge base for teaching ESL students and would help them differentiate instruction to meet the needs of all students.